

Mr. E. C. STUART BAKER proposed the following new names for two Indian birds :—

***Alcedo iredalei*, nom. nov.**

Alcedo grandis, the name given by Blyth to the Great Indian Kingfisher, is unfortunately preoccupied by *Alcedo grandis* of Gmelin, Syst. Nat. i. p. 458 (1788).

***Upupa epops orientalis*, nom. nov.**

Upupa indica of Reichs. Handl. spec. Orn. p. 320 (1851-4) is preoccupied by *Upupa indica* of Latham, Ind. Orn. i. p. 280 (1790), founded on the Blue Promerops (Latham, Syn. Supp. i. p. 124).

Mr. STUART BAKER also described the following new race of Laughing-Thrush :—

***Garrulax albogularis whistleri*.**

Similar to *Garrulax albogularis albogularis* Gould, of which the type-locality is Nepal, but larger and much paler above, with a greyer, less rufous tint. Below also it is paler and duller.

Wing from 132 (very abraded) to 144 mm.; average 139 mm.

Type-locality. Simla.

Type. In the British Museum, ♂, Simla, 3. xi. 80 ; 86.10.1. 3841.

Distribution. Himalayas from Hazara to Garhwal.

Named after Mr. H. Whistler of the Indian Police, who has done much excellent field-work in N.W. India.

Mr. J. D. D. LA TOUCHE communicated the following descriptions of new birds from S.E. Yunnan, S.W. China :—

***Heteroxenicus cruralis laurentei*, subsp. nov.**

Nearest to *H. c. cruralis* from the Shan States, but with almost uniform blue belly, only a shade of grey, and larger than the average Shan States bird. It differs from Sikkim birds in having a much larger wing than these and by its conspicuously heavier bill. Sikkim birds (wing 67 mm.) also show a good deal of grey on the abdomen.

Wing 71 mm. ; tail 50 mm. ; culmen 14 mm. ; tarsus 31 mm. Bill black, legs very dark purplish-brown.

Type. ♂ ad., Mengtz, S.E. Yunnan (4000 ft.), 31 October, 1920.

Minla ignotincta mariæ, subsp. nov.

♂. Differs from *M. ignotincta* Hodgs. in having the back olive-green, not dark brown, in having the primaries bordered with crimson-lake, and in the underparts, which are brilliant yellow, flecked with pale olive. Wing 0.70 mm.

♀. Has the underparts pale yellow and the wings bordered with the same. Wing 68 mm.

Types. ♂, Milati, S.E. Yunnan, 13th January, 1921.

♀ ad., Loukouchai, S.E. Yunnan, 4th March, 1921.

Named after my daughter Mary.

Obs. *Minla jerdoni* Verr., according to Lord Rothschild, is inseparable from *M. ignotincta*, and it would appear that Bangs and Phillips wrongly identified their examples of this bird with the former.

Merula protomomelæna yunnanensis, subsp. n.

♂. Differs from the typical form in having the black head and neck sharply separated from the slate-coloured back. Iris dark brown, rim of eyelid and bill bright yellow (ad.), yellow tipped with black (younger birds), upper mandible reddish-brown with lower mandible dull yellowish with dark point (young bird), legs fleshy yellow, dull dark yellowish-flesh, yellowish-red, and dull Naples yellow.

Wing 123-140 mm.

♀. Is of a much darker olive-brown on the upper parts.

Iris dark brown, bill dull yellowish, base of upper mandible blackish (ad.), dull greenish-brown, gape yellow, legs Naples yellow (ad. and jun.), rim of eyelid dull yellowish.

Wing 114-120 mm.

Types. ♂, Milati, S.E. Yunnan (5000 ft.), 19 Jan., 1921.

♀, ,, ,, ,, 14 ,,

Urosphena laurentei, sp. nov.

Nearest to *U. squamiceps* Swinhoe, but with shorter bill and wing, longer tail, and no squamation on the head. Upper parts plain umber-brown, the upper surface of the tail much darker brown, contrasting with the shade of brown

of the back. General colour of the underparts white, tinged with buff on the centre of the breast and on the abdomen, sides of breast and flanks olive-brown, under tail-coverts pale buff.

Iris dark brown, upper mandible dark brown, lower mandible and edge of base of upper mandible flesh, legs pale pink.

Wing 45 mm.; tail 33 mm.; culmen 11 mm.; tarsus 21 mm.

Type. ♀, Poutoutsing, S.E. Yunnan (2700 ft.), 12 April, 1921.

Suthora webbiana yunnanensis, subsp. nov.

Near *S. w. alphonsiana* of Kweichow, but with the sides of the head and neck never pale grey, but dull greyish vinous or dull greyish washed with vinous. Bill of birds in my collection much larger. Five examples of *Suthora* in B.M. collection from Yunnan province (Styan collection) are very similar and without doubt belong to this Yunnan form, but have the small bill of the Kweichow bird.

Wing, ♂ & ♀, 52 mm.

Types. ♂, Kopaotsun, S.E. Yunnan (5500 ft.), 13 May, 1921.

♀, Kopaotsun, S.E. Yunnan (5500 ft.), 15 May, 1921.

Sitta europæa obscura, subsp. nov.

Nearest to *S. e. nagaensis*, but with much darker dirty brownish-grey underparts. It also approximates to *S. e. montium*, but, unlike that form, it has no pure grey on the flanks, the underparts being *uniform*, and there is no seasonal change of plumage. The bill is stouter than in *S. montium*, but less so than in *S. nagaensis*. +
see p.

♂. Wings 78–80 mm. ♀. Wing 76–78 mm.

Bill blackish, base of lower mandibles bluish, legs reddish-brown.

Type. ♂, Milati, S.E. Yunnan (5000 ft.), 9 Jan., 1921.

Obs. This is certainly the same bird as the one from Loukouchai identified by Bangs and Phillips as *Sitta europæa montium*.

Zosterops aureiventer joannæ, subsp. nov.

Near *Z. aureiventer* Hume, but the yellow stripe down the centre of the underparts joins the yellow throat and is often only slight in extent in some males and is absent altogether

in females. The upper parts are of a golden green and the flanks are a darkish pink-grey. The white ring round the eye is narrower and the tail is longer.

Iris hazel, upper mandible blackish, lower mandible bluish, legs plumbeous.

♂. Wing 53 mm. ; tail 39 mm.

♀. „ 51 „ „ 38 „

Types. ♂, Mengtz, S.E. Yunnan (4000 ft.), 13 Nov., 1920.

♀, „ „ „ „ 23 Sept., 1920.

Named after my daughter Jeanne.

This is most probably the bird called *Z. palpebrosa mussoti* Oustalet by Bangs and Phillips.

***Zosterops erythropleurus melanorhyncha*, subsp. nov.**

Similar to typical *Z. erythropleurus* Swinhoe, save that the bill is considerably larger and differently coloured. Upper mandible and point of lower mandible dark brown, base of lower mandible violet-plumbeous. Legs greenish-plumbeous.

Wing 59 mm.

Type. ♀, Mengtz, S.E. Yunnan (4000 ft.), 22 Oct., 1920.

In true *Z. erythropleurus* the bill is small and flesh-coloured with darker point. David and Oustalet, nevertheless, give the bill as brownish above and bluish underneath, but state that it does not become black in drying. The example described above has now the upper mandible and most of the lower one blackish.

***Arachnothera longirostris sordida*, subsp. nov.**

Nearest to Assam examples of *A. longirostris*, which it resembles by its dull grey throat and breast, but differs from it in its conspicuously shorter bill and dull whitish-grey lores. It differs from Siamese birds by the dull-coloured lores, its grey throat and breast, and very short bill.

Wing 63 mm. ; culmen 32 mm.

Type. ♂, Hokow, S.E. Yunnan (300 ft.), 31 Mar., 1921.

ERRATUM.—Count Nils Gyldenstolpe writes to point out that, through an error on the part of Mr. Stuart Baker, his description of *Molpastes atricapillus klossi* was attributed to Mr. H. C. Robinson (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xli. p. 12, 1920).